

Micky Morrison Child Minding

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Type of inspection:
Announced

Completed on:
17 August 2022

Service provided by:

Service provider number:
SP2013985525

Service no:
CS2013322299

About the service we inspected

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information in relation to all care services is available on our website at www.careinspectorate.com

Requirements and Recommendations

If we are concerned about some aspect of a service, or think it needs to do more to improve, we may make a recommendation or requirement.

A recommendation is a statement that sets out actions the care service provider should take to improve or develop the quality of the service but where failure to do so will not directly result in enforcement.

Recommendations are based on the National Care Standards, relevant codes of practice and recognise good practice.

A requirement is a statement, which sets out what is required of a care service to comply with the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 and Regulations or Orders made under the Act or a condition of registration.

Where there are breaches of the regulations, orders or conditions, a requirement must be made. Requirements are legally enforceable at the discretion of the Care Inspectorate.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service, to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. The Care Inspectorate has an important role to play in supporting this approach in inspecting care services for children.

The Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) approach is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. It's a consistent way for people to work with all children and young people. The approach helps practitioners focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people - and how they can act to deliver these improvements. Getting it right for every child is being threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families.

In Scotland, the GIRFEC approach puts wellbeing at the very heart of its approach. The eight 'indicators' of wellbeing that form the basis of GIRFEC are - safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included - often referred to as "SHANARRI".

The childminder is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of sixteen, of whom no more than six will be under twelve, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and no more than one is under twelve months. Numbers include children of the childminder's family.

Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those named on the certificate.

Overnight care will not be provided.

The parts of the premises not to be used are the garden, including any outdoor structures.

How we inspected the service

We spoke with the childminder. We also looked at evidence provided, to evaluate if the service had successfully met the requirements made at the complaint visit. Recommendations made at the previous inspection were not followed up at this visit.

Taking the views of people using the service into account

Views of service users were not available on this occasion.

Taking carers' views into account

Views of service users were not available on this occasion.

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Previous requirements

Requirement 1

The provider must make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of children. In this instance the provider must ensure that:

- a) the indoor environment provides sufficient play space for children, free from unnecessary obstructions and clutter.
- b) staircases must be cleared of all potential tripping hazards and any other items which have the potential to fall and cause injury to children.
- c) all toiletries must be securely located out with the reach of children.
- d) a rigorous risk assessment is completed to fully identify all potential risks to children and detail how any potential risk can be minimised.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 5.17: My environment is secure and safe. This is in order to comply with: Regulation 10(1) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210)

This requirement was made on 1 August 2022.

Action taken on previous requirement

We found the rooms used for childminding had been cleared of all clutter and obstructions, this included the staircase and bathroom. We were satisfied that the play space for children had been increased and that potential obstructions and hazards had been removed.

We found some resources remained located in the bath. However, we were satisfied that these were resources to assist children with toileting. For example, a toilet step and toilet seat attachment.

While some toiletries remained in the bathroom the childminder gave assurances that these would be removed prior to her resuming her childminding service.

We found risk assessments had been sourced for guidance. While these were not individualised to the childminders service, the childminder gave assurances that these would be individualised to her childminding service prior to her resuming to childmind.

Following our complaint investigation, the childminder submitted an action plan. This detailed:

- unnecessary obstructions and clutter will be removed and sufficient play space for children will be created.

Timescale: 19 August 2022.

- keeping the play space clutter free. Timescale: Ongoing
- staircases will be cleared of all potential hazards and any other items which have the potential to fall and cause injury to children. Timescale: 19 August 2022.
- keeping the staircases clear of hazards. Timescale: Ongoing.
- all toiletries will be securely located out with the reach of children by moving the storage unit out of the bathroom. Timescale: 19 August 2022.
- a rigorous risk assessment will be completed to fully identify all potential risks to children and detail how any potential risk can be minimised. Timescale 19 August 2022.

During our complaint investigation several fire safety concerns were observed. We contacted the fire officer who visited the childminder's home on 11 August 2022. The fire officer made the following recommendations:

- Integrated hard wired smoke alarm installed in living room.
- Integrated hard wired heat alarm installed in kitchen.
- Battery replaced in the upstairs hard wired smoke alarm immediately.
- Carbon monoxide detectors placed in the living room at an appropriate location and one placed in kitchen at an appropriate location.
- General housekeeping required to considerably reduce the amount of combustibles/fire loading within the relevant areas of the property.
- Doors should not be wedged open.

On our visit to the service on 16 August 2022, we found:

- the integrated hard wired smoke alarm to be installed in the living room had not yet been actioned. However, the childminder notified us on the 18 August 2022, to confirm that this had now been installed. This recommendation is now met.
- the integrated hard wired heat alarm to be installed in the kitchen, had not yet been actioned. However, the childminder notified us on the 18 August 2022, to confirm that this had now been installed. This recommendation is now met.
- battery replaced in the upstairs hard wired smoke alarm immediately. We found this recommendation had been met.
- carbon monoxide detectors placed in the living room at an appropriate location and one placed in kitchen at an appropriate location. We found this recommendation had been met.
- general housekeeping required to considerably reduce the amount of combustibles/fire loading within the relevant areas of the property. We found this recommendation had been met.
- doors should not be wedged open. The childminder told us doors would not be wedged open.

Following the complaint investigation, the childminder submitted an action plan. This detailed:

- 'comply with the fire precautions in domestic childminding premises: I will order and install a new wireless and interlinked smoke/heat alarm system comprising three smoke alarms and one heat detector. Timescale: 19 August 2022.'

Met - within timescales**Requirement 2**

The provider must make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of children. In this instance the provider must ensure that:

- a) the garden is not accessible to children until the area can be cleared of all potential hazards. Broken, worn and discarded items must be disposed of, prior to children having access to this area.
- b) a rigorous risk assessment for the garden is carried out. This must fully consider the potential risk the pond presents to children and detail how this risk can be safely managed.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 5.17: My environment is secure and safe. This is in order to comply with: Regulation 4(1)(a) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210)

This requirement was made on 1 August 2022.

Action taken on previous requirement

During our visit of 16 August 2022, we found the garden remained unfit for children's use. We found items remained in the garden which posed a serious risk of injury to children. During our visit it was agreed by the childminder that children will not have access to the garden. We informed that a condition would be required to be added to the certificate of registration to exclude this area until the safety of the garden could be evidenced. Following our visit, the childminder submitted an application to vary her conditions of registration which would exclude the garden from children having access to this area. The certificate of registration has now been updated to include this information. We are therefore satisfied with the action taken.

Following our complaint investigation, the childminder submitted an action plan. This detailed:

- I have requested a variation to add the following condition: The garden (including any outdoor structure is not to be used. Timescale: 16 August 2022.
- to be able to lift this condition in the future: The garden will be cleared of all potential hazards. Broken, worn and discarded items will be disposed of. Timescale: April 2023.
- a rigorous risk assessment for the garden will be carried out. This will fully consider the potential risk the pond presents to children and detail how this risk can be safely managed. Timescale: April 2023.

Met - within timescales**Requirement 3**

The provider must make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of children. In this instance the provider must ensure that:

- a) the gazebo and mezzanine platform is not accessible to children until the safety and suitability of this construction can be evidenced.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 5.17: My environment is secure and safe. This is in order to comply with: Regulation 4(1)(a) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210)

This requirement was made on 1 August 2022.

Action taken on previous requirement

During our visit of 16 August 2022, we found information was not available to evidence the safety of the gazebo/mezzanine platform. During our visit it was agreed by the childminder that children will not have access to this area until this information can be provided. We informed that a condition would be required to be added to the certificate of registration to exclude this area until the safety of the gazebo/mezzanine could be evidenced. Following our visit, the childminder submitted an application to vary her conditions of registration which would exclude children having access to the gazebo/mezzanine platform. The certificate of registration has now been updated to include this information. We are therefore satisfied with the action taken.

Following our complaint investigation, the childminder submitted an action plan. This detailed:

- I will retrospective apply for alterations to my premises and will supply any requested Information to evidence the safety and suitability of this construction. Timescale: April 2023.
- Until such time this outdoor structure is included in the applied variation. Timescale: 16 August 2022.
- the garden (including any outdoor structures) is not to be used.

Met - within timescales

Requirement 4

The provider must make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of children. In this instance the provider must ensure that:

a) in order to support children's independence and respect their privacy and dignity, children must be supported to access appropriate toilet facilities. The ages, stages and abilities of children's must be considered when managing the toileting needs of children.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 5.2: I can easily access a toilet from the room I use and I can use this when I need to. This is in order to comply with: Regulation 4(1)(a) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210)

This requirement was made on 1 August 2022.

Action taken on previous requirement

During our visit of 16 August 2022, the childminder gave assurances that all children will now have access to the toilet and only children who are in the process of toilet training will be provided with a potty. The toilet training policy will be updated to reflect this. The childminder gave further assurances that when assisting children with their personal care needs their privacy and dignity, would be respected at all times.

Following our complaint investigation, the childminder submitted an action plan. This detailed:

- the downstairs toilet potty will be moved to the upstairs bathroom as there is currently no toilet training necessary. Timescale 19 August 2022.
- to support children's independence and respect their privacy and dignity, children will be supported to access appropriate toilet facilities in the upstairs bathroom. Timescale: ongoing.
- the ages, stages and abilities of children's will be considered when managing the toileting needs of children at any given time. Timescale: ongoing.

Met - within timescales**Requirement 5**

The provider must make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of children. In this instance the provider must ensure that:

a) in order to safeguard children, children are supervised at all times. The collection of children from school/nursery must be effectively managed, to ensure there is not the need to compromise children's safety by leaving children unsupervised in her car.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 4.14: My care and support is planned in a safe way, including if there is an emergency or unexpected event. This is in order to comply with: Regulation 4(1)(a) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210)

This requirement was made on 1 August 2022.

Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder told us that the number of school picks ups will now be reduced from three to two. The childminder told us: this would remove the need for any child to be left unsupervised in her car. We discussed with the childminder how the drop off /collection of children from school/nursery could be safely managed given that children would still need to be collected from school/nursery from two different locations at the same time. While possible solutions to this were given by the childminder it was agreed that these would be monitored to ensure their success.

Following our complaint investigation, the childminder submitted an action plan. This detailed:

- will be reducing the number of schools to pick up at by giving notice to parents. Timescale: 19 August 2022.
- I will not take on school runs to other schools than already provided. Timescale: on going.
- Children therefore won't be left unsupervised. Timescale: ongoing.

Met - within timescales

Requirement 6

The provider must ensure that the conditions of registration are maintained at all times. In particular:

- a) the provider must ensure that only adults named on the certificate of registration care for children.
- b) the arrangement where the care of children is transferred between the provider and another carer must cease.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with Health and Social Care Standard 4.23: I have confidence in the organisation providing my care and support. This is in order to comply with: Regulation 4(1)(a) of The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011 (SSI 2011/210)

This requirement was made on 1 August 2022.

Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder told us that the arrangement where she and another childminder shared the care of each other's minded children, for example, where the childminder collected the children of another childminder from school and vice versa, would cease. We were therefore satisfied that the conditions of registration with regards to the childminder being the sole carer of minded children would be met.

Met - within timescales

What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

Previous recommendations

Recommendation 1

The childminder should ensure that she has a clear understanding and knowledge of what to do should she have concerns about a child's safety, health and wellbeing. She should attend relevant child protection training and training about Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) so that she develops confidence in this area of her practice.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 28 June 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had not attended child protection training, but was aware that this was available online. She thought that she had attended GIRFEC training. We have made a further recommendation about training in this report.

Recommendation 2

The childminder should ensure that good practice for controlling infection is followed by ensuring that hands are always washed before eating, cooking and using the toilet.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 28 June 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder encouraged children to wash their hands appropriately and we observed that the child present during our visit knew how to wash hands properly.

Recommendation 3

The childminder should seek support to ensure that her records and plans are kept in accordance with national guidance and best practice. She should develop reflective practice to include self-evaluation and ensure that this leads to improvements in her service.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 13: Improving the service and Standard 14: Well-managed service.

This recommendation was made on 28 June 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had sought support from SCMA and had made improvements. She had developed reflective practice and we could see that this had resulted in changes to her service. She should ensure that she maintains this.

Recommendation 4

Personal plans should include a statement of intent about what the service will provide over the next 12 months, link specifically to children's health, welfare and safety needs and include robust reviews where there is a significant change to a child's needs.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 14: Well-managed service.

This recommendation was made on 28 June 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

This recommendation is repeated, because whilst there were development plans for children they did not include a statement of intent about health or safety.

Recommendation 5

Personal plans should include a statement of intent about how the service will meet children's health, welfare and safety needs. They should include robust reviews where there is a significant change to a child's needs.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 14: Well-managed service.

This recommendation was made on 18 October 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

This recommendation will be followed up at the next full inspection.

Recommendation 6

The childminder should ensure that she has a clear understanding of what to do to ensure that she is providing a service which meets the safety, health and wellbeing needs of children. She should keep up to date and attend relevant training opportunities like child protection whenever possible and regularly.

National Care Standards for early education and childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 18 October 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

This recommendation will be followed up at the next full inspection.

Complaints

Please see Care Inspectorate website (www.careinspectorate.com) for details of complaints about the service which have been upheld.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
14 Sep 2017	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 4 - Good
28 Jun 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 2 - Weak Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 3 - Adequate

Date	Type	Gradings	
19 May 2015	2	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 3 - Adequate Not assessed 4 - Good

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